



Dr. James Babb Home, 1571 Dover Road, Epsom, NH

This part of Epsom became known as the 'Center' as between the new town house (town hall), stores, post office, church, taverns, mills and town pound, all within easy walking distance. It also obtained the nickname of 'slab city.' Thomas D. Merrill was one of the central figures in Epsom, starting out as a store owner and becoming quickly a civic leader and handling many land transactions. Dr. James Babb was a Doctor in Epsom for 15 years before moving to Manchester in 1840.

CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):

1823, Jeremiah Prescott from John Ham Jr., 46 acres, tract #2, south of turnpike, 31 rods on turnpike to river by Mrs. Davis' house; 1825, B.L. Locke from Jeremiah Prescott; 1827, Jeremiah Prescott from Benjamin L. Locke, 1/2 of a tract of land with 1/2 of all buildings being 1/2 of land purchased of Jeremiah Prescott 19 Feb. 1825; 1831, Jeremiah Prescott to Dearborn Batchelder; May 1833, James Babb of Epsom from Dearborn Batchelder, 26 rods more or less, southside of turnpike, northwest corner where Dearborn Batchelder resides. No buildings; Oct. 1833, Thomas D. Merrill from James Babb, Epsom, a corner of the lot that Dearborn Batchelder purchased from Jeremiah Prescott (northwest corner); 1851, Morrill Hoyt from Ann G. Merrill, Concord, Executrix of the late Thomas D. Merrill, land and buildings, 26 square rods, same property conveyed to T.D. Merrill by James Babb; 1878, Hosea L. Hilliard from the heirs of Morrill Hoyt (William, Franklin, Morrill D. Bickford and wife Eliza Hoyt), his homestead farm, land and buildings, south side of turnpike; 1900, Mattie S. Hart from Hosea L. Hilliard, land and buildings on south side of turnpike, *except the store*; 1907, Herbert S. Little from Mattie S. Hart, land and buildings on south side of turnpike; 1910, John W. Yeaton from Herbert S. Little; 1926, Thomas R. Yeaton from John W. Yeaton of Concord; 1933, James, Sally & Ralph Colarusso from Thomas R. & Augusta J. Yeaton, bounded by (formerly) Andrew Evans, south and easterly by Maurice C. Philbrick; 2000, Sally M. Brown; 2005, Elaine Benson.

GENEALOGY: Dr. James Babb was the son of John Babb and Salome Rand and married in 1825, Anna Maria Lang.

Dearborn Batchelder was born in Northwood 1778 and married Sally Nealley.

Morrill Hoyt married in 1829 Ruth Sargent and had for children; Charles, Ebenezer, William, Joseph, Jeremiah, Albert, Hannah, Eliza, Albert J., George and Frank. Daughter Eliza married Morrill D. Bickford.

Hosea L. Hilliard married in 1872 Emma Eliza Clifford and had children Millie, Ruth and Merton.

